Headquarters Air Force Doctrine Center

Integrity - Service - Excellence

U.S. AIR FORCE

AFDD 2-1.7, Airspace Control in the Combat Zone

Lt Col Kelly Hill
AFDC/DR

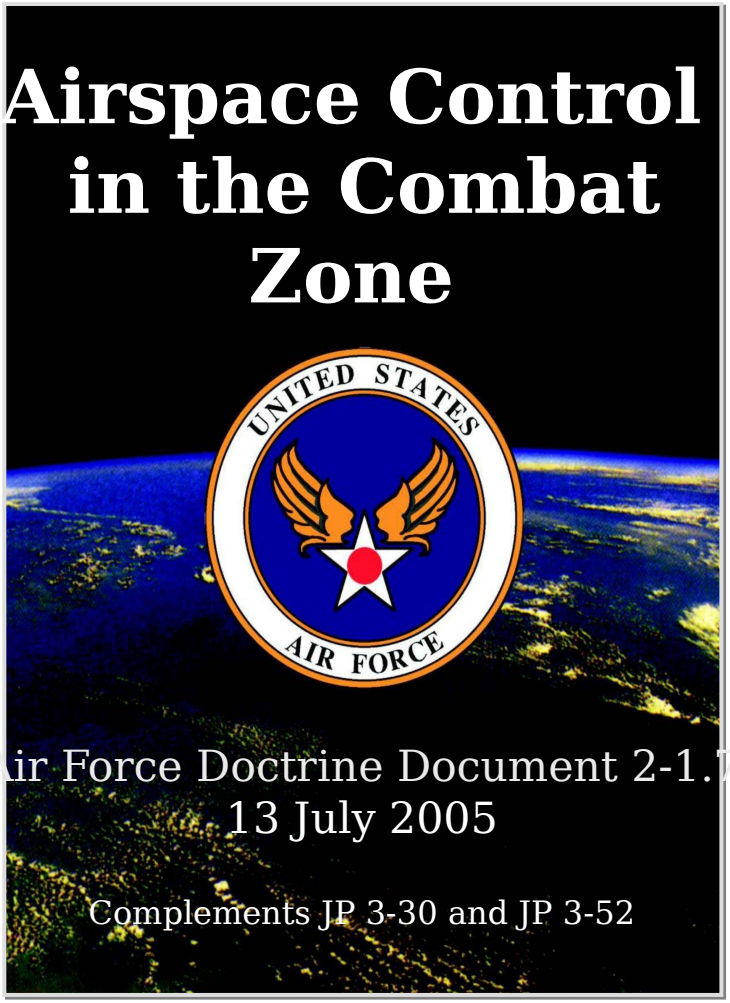
U.S. AIR FORCE

Overview

- AFDD 2-1.7, Airspace Control in the Combat Zone
- AFDD 2-1.7 Foundational Doctrine Statements
- Focus Areas for Latest Revision
- Questions

AFDD 2-1.7, *Airspace Control in the Combat Zone*

U.S. AIR FORCE


Airspace Control in the Combat Zone
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Air Force Doctrine Document 2-1.7
13 July 2005
Complements JP 3-30 and JP 3-52

Tackles these key issues:

- **Airspace control throughout all levels of conflict**
- **The airspace Planning Process**
- **How we organize and present AF forces to the JFACC for airspace control**
- **Commander's responsibilities and airspace control mechanisms**
- **Training & Equipping USAF Airspace Control Personnel**
- **Air Traffic Services integration into the Airspace Control Process**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Doctrine for Airspace Control in the Combat Zone

AIR FORCE DOCTRINE CENTER

- **Control of the air and space environment is a necessity for providing the joint force with greater freedom of action while reducing its vulnerability to enemy detection and attack.**

- **The USAF, through the Commander of Air Force Forces (COMAFFOR) provides the joint force commander (JFC) with forces capable of conducting airspace control in the combat zone. Airspace control is best performed and carried out by integrating a variety of joint, combined, and host nation air traffic and airspace control systems.**

- **This AFDD gives operational level AF guidance to all Airmen for planning, integrating, coordinating, and executing airspace control operations, throughout all levels of conflict.**

Airspace Control Definition

- **Airspace control in the combat zone. A process used to increase combat effectiveness by promoting the safe, efficient, and flexible use of airspace. Airspace control is provided in order to reduce the risk of friendly fire, enhance air defense operations, and permit greater flexibility of operations. Airspace control does not infringe on the authority vested in commanders to approve, disapprove, or deny combat operations. Also called airspace control; combat airspace control. (JP 1-02)**

Command and Control for Airspace Control Construct

- The COMAFFOR will normally be designated as the JFACC
- The JFACC will be most effective when also designated as the Area Air Defense Commander (AADC) and the Airspace Control Authority (ACA)
  - Closely interrelated responsibilities for Air Defense operations and Airspace Control are best carried out by a single individual
  - The COMAFFOR has the preponderance of C2 systems to provide the means to identify friend from foe, prevent fratricide, and integrate all offensive and defensive operations most effectively throughout the available airspace

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure

- **Chapter 1: Considerations for Airspace Control**
  - General
  - Objective
  - Airspace Control System Fundamentals
  - Interoperability and Adaptability
  - Information Assurance
  - Summary

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Chapter 2: Roles and Responsibilities**
  - **General**
  - **Commanders' Roles**
  - **Coordination with the Host Nation and Integration with Civil and Military Air Operations**

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Chapter 3: Developing the Airspace Control System**
  - **General**
  - **Operational Requirements**
  - **Planning Considerations**
  - **Transition from Peacetime to Combat Operations**
  - **Integration of Airspace Control and Air Defense Operations**
  - **Types of Identification**
  - **Levels of Airspace Control**
  - **Engagement of Enemy Air Threats**

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Chapter 4: Airspace Control for Specific Missions**
- **General**
- **Control of an Amphibious Objective Area**
- **Maritime Missions**
- **Stability Operations**
- **Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**
- **Conventional Air Launched Cruise Missiles, Joint Air to Surface Standoff Missiles, and Army Tactical Missile Systems**

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Chapter 5: Airspace Control Execution: The USAF Theater Air Control System (TACS)**
- **General**
- **Organization, Facilities, and Personnel**
- **Air and Space Operations Center**
- **Ground TACS (GTACS) Elements**
- **Airborne Elements of the Theater Air Control System (AETACS)**
- **Elements that Interface with the Air Control System**
- **Responsibilities**
- **Implementation**
- **Execution**
- **Integration and Synchronization with Surface Operations**
- **Communications and Information Management**

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Chapter 6: Integration of Air Traffic Services into the Airspace Control System**
- **Air Traffic Control's Function in the Airspace System**
- **Planning**
- **Capabilities**
- **Safety and Standardization**

AFDD 2-1.7 Structure (cont'd)

- **Appendices**
  - **Appendix A: Airspace Control Plan**
  - **Appendix B: Procedural Airspace Coordinating Measures**
    - **Annex A to Appendix B: Airspace Control Representative Format**
  - **Appendix C: Regional Air Movement Control Center**
- **Suggested Readings**
- **Glossary**

Focus Areas for Latest Revision

- **Updated Lessons Learned from GWOT, OEF, and OIF**
  - **Expanded discussion of airspace control at all levels of conflict**
    - **Included a discussion of the Regional Air Movement Control Center (RAMCC)**
    - **Included discussion of all airspace users (Nongovernmental Organizations (NGO), civil users, etc.)**
    - **Added vignettes discussing airspace coordination Lessons Learned from Operation ANACONDA and urban CAS operations during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM**
  - **Expanded discussion of UAVs—added CALCM, JASSM, and TALCM**
  - **Expanded discussion of airspace control and air defense operations**
  - **Updated TACS discussion**
  - **Added emphasis on fratricide prevention and positive identification**
  - **Updated discussion of airspace coordination measures and fire support coordination measures**
  - **Updated terminology throughout**

Summary: Foundational Doctrine Statements

- Airspace control is essential to combat effectiveness in accomplishing the joint force commander's objectives, at all levels of conflict
- Unity of effort is essential for effective airspace control
- The airspace control structure and procedures need to be simple to execute for both ground operations personnel and aircrews

Summary: Foundational Doctrine Statements (cont'd)

- **Information assurance is a key enabler to airspace control capabilities**
- **As the nation's only full-service air and space force, the Air Force is the dominant user of airspace in various AORs or JOAs**
- **Airspace control structures and procedures require extensive planning before operations commence as the airspace environment may transition through varying stages from peacetime to combat and back to peacetime operations during a contingency**

Summary: Foundational Doctrine Statements (cont'd)

- The ACA may assign a portion of airspace to another commander to accomplish a specified mission
- The Air Force airspace command and control (C2) system is a reflection of the air and space power tenet of centralized control and decentralized execution. The Air Force Theater Air Control System (TACS) provides the Air Force component commander with the means to achieve this tenet
- Close coordination among airspace control, air defense, and air traffic control elements is required to maximize combat effectiveness while preventing fratricide and mutual interference

U.S. AIR FORCE

Questions?

At the heart of warfare lies doctrine